

Subject: Public Hearing Comments

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From: DoNotReply@delaware.gov

To: HearingComments, DNREC (MailBox Resources), markt0112@gmail.com

Comments on 2022-R-A-0011: Low Emission Vehicle Program

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Organization: No

Comments:

I would like to start with that I am not against EVs, but in my opinion they are not a viable option for the majority of people at this time. There are several reasons I am against this low emission vehicle initiative. The first is electric vehicles cannot be utilized by everyone. People who live in the city with on street parking, live in a condo/apartment, or live in a rural area will have significant problems trying to recharge their vehicle and/or trouble getting to where they are going and home on a single charge. Second, these electric vehicles are expensive compared to there internal combustion counterparts and typically don't offer the same space or load capacity for an equivalently priced electric vehicle no matter which way you present it. Forcing an expensive price tag on people right now is really thoughtless, people are still recovering from financial issues from covid and record inflation of prices on everyday needs. I don't feel I could purchase a new car right now gas, diesel, or electric with the insane prices and higher interest rates. I'm going to be keeping my 20 year old car for a while longer until things start looking better financially. Many employers have hiring freezes in place right now, they are short on people but aren't willing to spend the money because of the instability of the economy. Third, our electric grid is not prepared and will not be prepared in the next 5 years to handle the load of a bunch of electric vehicles. California practically is sitting in the dark during the summer months between the air-conditioning load and the EV load and they only have about 19% electric vehicles. We keep shutting down power plants and not replacing them, that is not going to help. Fourth, the lithium batteries are an environmental mess. Currently there isn't a whole lot out there about what is going to happen with these used batteries as far as recycling, even if they can be recycled. Fifth, imposing a mandate of 35% of cars sold need to be electric to all the car dealers in 4Q25 is going to put a significant burden on car dealers. In this area what I can find is that they sell about 2-3% of electric vehicles right now. They are expected to sell an order of magnitude higher in a year and a half, I don't think that is reasonable for the dealer or the consumer. Basically that is forcing a substandard vehicle on the consumer because it doesn't fit their budget or their needs. In summary, this is an ill-prepared for initiative that will cause significant financial hardship for a significant amount of the citizens of Delaware. When we have higher powered batteries, that weigh less and take up less space, an improved power grid to support the demand, electric vehicles in various common sizes and capacities (vans, trucks, etc) that compare to the gas/diesel version, and the costs come down, people will be more agreeable to purchasing them. Hopefully, we will develop paint for the car that works as a solar cell and can keep the car charged in almost all conditions and we won't need to plug them in except for a few occasions in the winter. Right now we are in the "early adopter" stage of electric vehicles. It is a novelty to most right now. This happens with any new technology, like cell phones, the personal computer, the microwave, and if you go back far enough, the automobile ("my horse hasn't failed me yet"). Thank you for your time, Mark Simone